



Arbovirus Surveillance Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Infectious Diseases Laboratory Division
State Laboratory Institute

Date: July 31, 2000

Two crows, one from Boston found dead on 7/22 and one from Hopkinton (Middlesex County) found dead on 7/21, tested positive for West Nile Virus. The Massachusetts DPH issued a press release on Wednesday 7/26 after the first crow from Boston was confirmed positive. On Thursday a second press release was issued regarding the crow from Hopkinton. Intensive mosquito trapping and ecological surveys have been initiated at and around the sites where the WNV positive birds were found. This is the first evidence of WNV in Massachusetts and residents are reminded to take precautions against mosquito bites. Consideration of limited and targeted mosquito control is recommended for appropriate locations within a two-mile radius of sites where birds are found. Active avian surveillance has also been initiated with support from the Division of Vector Borne Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Ft. Collins, CO. A scientist from CDC arrived on Thursday and has been working through the weekend training SLI staff, and collecting specimens for testing.

Mosquito trapping utilizing CDC-light traps continued at sixteen regular long-term sites in Plymouth, Bristol, Norfolk, Middlesex and eastern Worcester Counties. Sites in Boston, Northampton, Springfield, and Greenfield were also trapped with CDC-light and gravid traps. In addition, Mosquito Control Projects throughout the state continue to send in mosquitoes for testing. Over 700 mosquito pools collected from sites throughout Massachusetts have been tested to date. Two pools of *Culiseta melanura*, one collected at the Easton long-term site on 7/23, and one collected in Boston by the Suffolk County Mosquito Control Program on 7/24, have tested positive for eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEEV). It is not unusual to isolate EEEV from *Cs.melanura*, a bird-biting mosquito, at this point in the summer. All other mosquitoes have tested negative for WNV and EEE virus.

To date, 22 humans have been tested for WNV infections. All tests of specimens from humans have been negative for WNV.

Weekly arbovirus reports and information material on WNV and EEEV can be accessed at <http://www.state.ma.us/dph>.

Total Number of Mosquitoes Analyzed: 6840

Virus Isolates in Mosquito Pools:

1 HJV	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	Boston	6/29/00
1 EEEV	<i>Culiseta melanura</i>	Easton	7/23/00
1 EEEV	<i>Culiseta melanura</i>	Boston	7/24/00

WNV Positive Birds:

Boston	7/22/00	Crow
Hopkinton	7/21/00	Crow

Mosquito species name abbreviations:

Cs mel = *Culiseta melanura*
Cq per = *Coquillettidia perturbans*
Ae can = *Aedes canadensis*
Ae vex = *Aedes vexans*
Cx pip = *Culex pipiens*

Virus name abbreviations:

EEEV = Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus
HJV = Highlands J Virus
WNV = West Nile Virus

Mosquito Surveillance Weekly Test Report

7/22/2000 to 7/28/2000

	----- mosquito species -----							----- Viruses -----		
<i>Site</i>	<i>Cs mel</i>	<i>Cq per</i>	<i>Ae can</i>	<i>Ae vex</i>	<i>Cx pip</i>	<i>Cx other</i>	<i>Other Sp</i>	<i>EEEV</i>	<i>HJV</i>	<i>WNV</i>
Boston	1	0	0	0	53	17	0	0	0	0
Brockton	23	6	1	0	2	6	0	0	0	0
Canton	38	21	9	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Carver	47	17	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Easton	92	3	5	0	16	1	0	1	0	0
Foxboro	12	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Greenfield	1	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	0
Halifax	103	2	5	0	18	3	7	0	0	0
Hanover	21	0	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0
Holliston	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kingston	85	11	0	0	11	4	0	0	0	0
Lakeville	5	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
New Bedford	85	13	2	0	18	3	1	0	0	0
Northampton	0	1	9	2	4	0	0	0	0	0
Raynham	10	5	1	0	6	2	0	0	0	0
Rehoboth	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Springfield	0	0	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	0
Walpole	17	52	6	3	10	2	0	0	0	0
Westboro	2	0	3	0	6	0	4	0	0	0
Westport	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Total for DPH</i>	556	136	46	7	158	47	12	1	0	0

Monday, July 31, 2000

Mosquito Surveillance Cumulative Test Report 05/31/2000 to 7/28/2000

	<i>-----mosquito species -----</i>							<i>----- Viruses -----</i>		
<i>Site</i>	<i>Cs mel</i>	<i>Cq per</i>	<i>Ae can</i>	<i>Ae vex</i>	<i>Cx pip</i>	<i>Cx other</i>	<i>Other Sp</i>	<i>EEEV</i>	<i>HJV</i>	<i>WNV</i>
Boston	1	0	0	0	53	17	0	0	0	0
Brockton	53	23	15	4	4	13	0	0	0	0
Canton	90	41	26	12	9	12	0	0	0	0
Carver	85	96	11	2	2	4	0	0	0	0
Easton	440	22	217	4	62	73	1	1	0	0
Foxboro	161	62	52	9	13	6	0	0	0	0
Greenfield	2	0	0	0	9	5	3	0	0	0
Halifax	435	10	29	2	31	12	12	0	0	0
Hanover	90	0	7	1	7	6	1	0	0	0
Holliston	86	7	78	6	10	22	0	0	0	0
Kingston	224	38	10	3	24	17	0	0	0	0
Lakeville	22	18	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
New Bedford	263	15	21	4	64	26	1	0	0	0
Northampton	0	2	15	67	9	1	1	0	0	0
Raynham	73	19	19	5	15	11	15	0	0	0
Rehoboth	37	0	55	9	9	4	0	0	0	0
Springfield	18	4	2	3	16	13	0	0	0	0
Walpole	77	230	27	59	14	3	8	0	0	0
Westboro	56	31	48	9	26	10	6	0	0	0
Westport	26	1	25	2	2	17	2	0	0	0
<i>Total for DPH</i>	2239	619	663	201	385	272	50	1	0	0

Mosquito Control District Cumulative Surveillance Report through 7/28/2000

<i>Site</i>	<i>----- mosquito species -----</i>							<i>----- viruses -----</i>		
	<i>Cs mel</i>	<i>Cq per</i>	<i>Ae can</i>	<i>Ae vex</i>	<i>Cx pip</i>	<i>Cx other</i>	<i>Other Sp</i>	<i>EEEV</i>	<i>HJV</i>	<i>WNV</i>
Bristol County MCD	0	0	0	0	279	95	0	0	0	0
Cape Cod MCD	0	0	0	0	0	602	0	0	0	0
Central MA MCD	0	0	0	0	4	19	0	0	0	0
East Middlesex MCD	0	0	0	0	62	333	0	0	0	0
Essex County MCD	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0
Norfolk County MCD	0	0	0	0	42	11	0	0	0	0
Plymouth County MCD	0	0	0	0	96	0	0	0	0	0
Suffolk County MCD	105	117	76	58	210	67	1	1	1	0
<i>Total for MCD</i>	105	117	76	58	733	1127	1	1	1	0